

Senate Resolution 1223

By: Senator Pearson of the 51st

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Len Foote Hike Inn; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, this year marks the tenth anniversary of the Len Foote Hike Inn, and its
3 continuous operation by the not-for-profit Appalachian Education and Recreation Services,
4 Inc., affiliated with the Georgia Appalachian Trail Club, for the benefit of the citizens of
5 Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, the 20-room Len Foote Hike Inn, owned by the Georgia Department of Natural
7 Resources, State Parks Division, located within Amicalola Falls State Park in Dawson
8 County, opened in October, 1998, as the first state park ecolodge in Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, the Len Foote Hike Inn received the first Leadership in Energy and
10 Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification for an existing building in the State of
11 Georgia from the United States Green Building Council; and

12 WHEREAS, the Len Foote Hike Inn practices conservation and energy efficient techniques
13 that include low energy appliances and lighting, as well as the use of 24 photovoltaic solar
14 panels to provide up to 10 percent of the Inn's electricity and to preheat hot water for its
15 guests; and

16 WHEREAS, the Len Foote Hike Inn uses vermiculture to convert office paper, fabric, and
17 food services scraps into compost for landscaping using native plants exclusively; and

18 WHEREAS, the Len Foote Hike Inn with composting toilets saves approximately 200,000
19 gallons of water per year as part of its commitment to environmental sustainability; and

20 WHEREAS, the Len Foote Hike Inn, located up a five-mile interpretive trail from the top of
21 Amicalola Falls, provides both exercise and recreation for all its guests who arrive on foot;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, the Len Foote Hike Inn provides evening programs on conservation and
2 recycling, hiking techniques, native flora and fauna, as well as on Southern Appalachian
3 history and culture; and

4 WHEREAS, the AERS Board of Directors additionally provides annual college scholarships
5 and uses income over expenses for improvements at Georgia State Parks or along the
6 Appalachian Trail; and

7 WHEREAS, Leonard B. Foote, 1918-1989, noted Georgia naturalist, author and
8 photographer, as well as a Georgia Department of Natural Resources Board member, was
9 honored by having this outstanding back country Inn of Georgia and America named for him;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the Len Foote Hike Inn's mission statement is, "Protecting Georgia's Natural
12 Resources Through Education and Recreation."

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
14 join in recognizing and honoring the work of the Appalachian Education and Recreation
15 Services and the Len Foote Hike Inn for ten years of successful operation and commend
16 them for their dedication to teaching its visitors about the environment and protecting
17 Georgia's wilderness.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
19 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Appalachian Education and
20 Recreation Services and the Len Foote Hike Inn.